Appl. No.10/711,927 Prelim. Amdt. dated October 27, 2004

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph of the Specification with the following paragraph:

This application claims priority from US application no. 60/511,146 filed October 14, 2003, US application no. 60/520,151 filed November 14, 2003, US application no. 60/527,894 filed December 8, 2003, US application no. 60/547,336 filed February 24, 2004, and US application no. 60/617,363, filed October 8, 2004, each of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. This application is a continuation-in-part of US application no. 10/707,278 filed December 2, 2003, which is a continuation of US application no. 09/678,228 October 2, 2000, now US pat. no. 6,656,529 issued December 2, 2003, which is a continuation of US application no. PCT/US99/10819 filed May 18, 1999, which claims priority from US application no. 60/086,047 filed on May 19, 1998, each of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

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